

KCC 4781 (3) . No. 17,028)
PATENT

[Please replace claim 7 with the following]

7. (amended) A process as set forth in claim 6 wherein said aqueous suspension has a pH of about 5.5 after said boric acid is introduced into said suspension.

[Please replace claim 8 with the following]

8. (amended) A process as set forth in claim 1 wherein said boric acid is introduced into said aqueous suspension in an amount from about 5 to about 20% by weight of papermaking fibers present in said aqueous suspension.

[Please replace claim 9 with the following]

9. (amended) A process as set forth in claim 8 wherein said boric acid is introduced into said aqueous suspension in an amount from about 10 to about 15% by weight of papermaking fibers present in said aqueous suspension.

[Please replace claim 10 with the following]

10. (amended) A process as set forth in claim 1 wherein the temperature of said heated air is at least about 190°C.

Please cancel claim 11.

Please replace claim 12 with the following:

12. (amended) A process as set forth in claim 10 wherein the temperature of said heated air is from about 190° to about 210°C.

Please replace claim 15 with the following:

15. (amended) A process for making a cellulosic paper product, the process comprising:
forming an aqueous suspension of papermaking fibers;
introducing boric acid into said aqueous suspension;
depositing said aqueous suspension onto a sheet-forming fabric to form a wet web, said boric acid being introduced into said aqueous suspension prior to depositing said aqueous suspension onto said sheet-forming fabric; and

KCC 4781 (U.S. No. 17,028)
PATENT

A4
through-drying said wet web by passing heated air through
said wet web.

Please cancel claims 24 and 25.

Please add the following new claims 26-28.

26. (new) A process for manufacturing a cellulosic paper
product, the process comprising:

forming an aqueous suspension of papermaking fibers;

introducing boric acid into said aqueous suspension in an
amount from about 5 to about 20% by weight of papermaking fibers
present in said aqueous suspension;

depositing said aqueous suspension onto a sheet-forming
fabric to form a wet web, said boric acid being introduced into
said aqueous suspension prior to depositing said aqueous
suspension onto said sheet-forming fabric; and

dewatering and drying said wet web.

A5
27. (new) A process as set forth in claim 26 wherein said
boric acid is introduced into said aqueous suspension in an
amount from about 10 to about 15% by weight of papermaking fiber
present in said aqueous suspension.

28. (new) A process as set forth in claim 26 wherein said
wet web is through-dried by passing heated air through said wet
web.
